

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims shall replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

I claim:

5 1. (Currently amended): An air freshener comprising:

a circuit having ~~at least one~~ a plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes and at least one resistor wherein said at least one resistor is disposed in a heating block;

10 electrical connectors coupled to said circuit to receive current from a power source and to provide said current to said circuit;

a container for holding a substance to be heated;

15 wherein said at least one resistor heats said heating block so as to heat said substance held by said container thereby accelerating the emission of an aroma associated with said substance and wherein said at least one resistor also limits said current provided to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

20 2. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said power source provides alternating current and wherein said circuit further comprises a rectifier.

3. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said power source provides alternating current and wherein said circuit further comprises a shunt diode connected in parallel with said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes and in series with said at least one resistor.

4. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said heating block is comprised of a ceramic material.

5. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim 1 further comprising:

a decorative shield illuminated by said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

6. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim 1 further comprising:

at least one fiber optic cable wherein said at least one fiber optic cable is coupled to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

7. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said circuit further includes a thermal fuse.

8. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said circuit further includes an electrical fuse.

9. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein
5 said container is translucent.

10. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim 9 wherein said container is illuminated by said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

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11. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 1 further comprising:

a wick inserted into said container wherein one end of said wick protrudes from said container.

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12. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 11 wherein said one end of said wick that protrudes from said container is held by said heating block.

20 13. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 1 further comprising:

a housing for holding said circuit wherein said housing also comprises a socket for holding said container.

14. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 13 further comprising:

a decorative shield coupled to said housing.

5 15. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim 14 wherein said decorative shield is illuminated by said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting diode diodes.

16. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 14 wherein
10 said decorative shield is a flower-shaped structure.

17. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 14 wherein said decorative shield depicts at least one flower.

15 18. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim 13 wherein said housing further includes at least one dome and at least one vent to facilitate release of said aroma and to facilitate emission of light generated by said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting diode diodes.

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19. (Currently amended): A method for efficiently combining nightlight and air freshener capabilities in a single decorative device comprising the steps of:

receiving current from a power source;

5 providing said current to a circuit including a resistor and ~~at least one~~ a plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes wherein said resistor limits said current provided to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes and wherein said resistor further heats a heating block; and

10 wherein said heating block heats an aromatic to motivate the release of an aroma.

20. (Original): A method according to claim 19 wherein said current is alternating current and said circuit further includes
15 a rectifier.

21. (Currently amended): A method according to claim 19 wherein said current is alternating current and said circuit further includes a shunt diode connected in parallel with said
20 ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes and in series with said resistor.

22. (Original): A method according to claim 19 wherein said heating block is a ceramic block.

23. (Currently amended): A method according to claim 19 further comprising the step of:

illuminating at least one fiber optic cable by coupling
5 said at least one fiber optic cable to said ~~at least one~~
plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

24. (Original): A method according to claim 19 wherein said heating block heats said aromatic using conduction.

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25. (Original): A method according to claim 19 wherein said heating block heats said aromatic using convection.

26. (Original): A method according to claim 19 wherein said
15 heating block heats said aromatic using radiation.

27. (Currently amended): A method according to claim 19 further comprising the step of:

utilizing said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting
20 ~~diode~~ diodes to illuminate a decorative shield.

28. (Original): A method according to claim 27 wherein said decorative shield depicts at least one flower.

29. (Original): A method according to claim 27 wherein said decorative shield is a flower-like structure.

30. (Original): A method according to claim 19 wherein said
5 aromatic is comprised of a hydrocarbon.

31. (Original): A method according to claim 30 wherein said hydrocarbon is a scented liquid.

10 32. (Original): A method according to claim 31 further comprising the step of:

holding said scented liquid in a container.

33. (Original): A method according to claim 32 wherein said
15 container is translucent.

34. (Currently amended): A method according to claim 33 further comprising the step of:

20 illuminating said container using light emitted from said
~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

35. (Original): A method according to claim 32 wherein said container also comprises a wick wherein one end of said wick protrudes from said container.

5 36. (Original): A method according to claim 35 wherein said one end of said wick that protrudes from said container is held by said heating block.

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37. (Currently amended): An air freshener comprising:

a circuit having ~~at least one~~ a plurality of light emitting ~~diode diodes~~, at least one resistor disposed in a heating block and a rectifier;

5 electrical connectors coupled to said circuit to receive alternating current from a power source and to provide said alternating current to said rectifier wherein said rectifier provides rectified alternating current to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode diodes~~ and to said at least
10 one resistor;

a container for holding a scented oil to be heated;

a wick inserted into said container wherein one end of said wick protrudes from said container;

a housing for holding said circuit wherein said housing
15 also comprises a socket for holding said container and said wick;

wherein said at least one resistor heats said heating block and said wick so as to heat said scented oil held by said container thereby accelerating the emission of an aroma and
20 wherein said at least one resistor also limits said rectified alternating current provided to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode diodes~~ wherein said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode diodes~~ illuminates.

38. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said heating block comprises a ceramic material.

39. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim
5 37 further comprising:

at least one fiber optic cable wherein said at least one fiber optic cable is coupled to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

10 40. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said circuit further includes a thermal fuse.

41. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said circuit further includes an electrical fuse.

15 42. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said housing further includes at least one dome and at least one vent to facilitate release of said aroma and to facilitate emission of light generated by said ~~at least one~~
20 plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

43. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said container further comprises a threaded neck and said socket of said housing is threaded so that said container can be screwed into said housing.

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44. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said container further comprises a reverse threaded neck and said socket of said housing is reverse threaded so that said container can be screwed into said housing.

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45. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said container is translucent.

46. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim
15 45 wherein said container is illuminated by said ~~at least one~~
plurality of light emitting diode diodes.

47. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said rectifier is a full-wave bridge rectifier.

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48. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 47 wherein said full-wave bridge rectifier includes four diodes.

49. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 37 further comprising:

a decorative shield coupled to said housing.

5 50. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim 49 wherein said decorative shield is illuminated by said ~~at~~ least one plurality of light emitting diode diodes.

51. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 49 wherein
10 said decorative shield is flower-shaped.

52. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 49 wherein said decorative shield depicts at least one flower.

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53. (Currently amended): An air freshener comprising:

a circuit having ~~at least one~~ a plurality of light emitting ~~diode diodes~~, at least one resistor disposed in a heating block and a shunt diode wherein said shunt diode is connected in
5 parallel with said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode diodes~~ and in series with said at least one resistor;

electrical connectors coupled to said circuit to receive alternating current from a power source and to provide said alternating current to said circuit;

10 a container for holding a scented oil to be heated;

a wick inserted into said container wherein one end of said wick protrudes from said container;

a housing for holding said circuit wherein said housing also comprises a socket for holding said container and said
15 wick;

wherein said at least one resistor heats said heating block and said wick so as to heat said scented oil held by said container thereby accelerating the emission of an aroma and wherein said at least one resistor also limits said alternating
20 current provided to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode diodes~~ such that said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode diodes~~ illuminates.

54. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said heating block comprises a ceramic material.

55. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim

5 53 further comprising:

at least one fiber optic cable wherein said at least one fiber optic cable is coupled to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

10 56. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said circuit further includes a thermal fuse.

57. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said circuit further includes an electrical fuse.

15 58. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said housing further includes at least one dome and at least one vent to facilitate release of said aroma and to facilitate emission of light generated by said ~~at least one~~ plurality of light emitting ~~diode~~ diodes.

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59. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said container further comprises a threaded neck and said socket of said housing is threaded so that said container can be screwed into said housing.

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60. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said container further comprises a reverse threaded neck and said socket of said housing is reverse threaded so that said container can be screwed into said housing.

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61. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said container is translucent.

62. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim
15 61 wherein said container is illuminated by said ~~at least one~~
plurality of light emitting diode diodes.

63. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 53 further comprising:
20 a decorative shield coupled to said housing.

64. (Currently amended): The device in accordance with claim
63 wherein said decorative shield is illuminated by said ~~at~~
least one plurality of light emitting diode diodes.

65. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 63 wherein said decorative shield is flower shaped.

5 66. (Original): The device in accordance with claim 63 wherein said decorative shield depicts at least one flower.

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